



AQUIA
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Cross Section

All of you are Christ's body, and each one is a part of it. 1 Corinthians 12:27

'The Great Divorce'



Photo courtesy of Rachel Rickenbaker

Father James Rickenbaker, above, leads the discussion at the Lenten book series held on Thursday evenings during Lent in the Great Hall.

The Lenten Cross

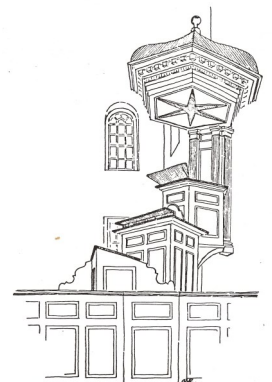
In the historic church, the Lenten Cross, right, displays opportunities for Lenten almsgiving with requests for donations of time, talent, gift cards or materials for Aquia Church ministries.

Photo courtesy of Kimberly Bamber



INSIDE:

- Rector: Is There Any Good News?
- Assistant Rector: The Greatest Story Ever Told
- An Easter Meditation
- Sts. Mary and Martha Guild
- ECW
- United Thank Offering Spring In-Gathering
- Aquia's Pantry
- Vestry Minutes
- Planning our Response
- April Prayer List
- Easter Lily Order Form





CROSS SECTION

Aquia Episcopal Church

2938 Richmond Hwy.
Stafford, Va.

Mailing address:
P.O. Box 275
Stafford, VA 22555

Contact us:
(540) 659-4007
office@aquiachurch.org
www.aquiachurch.org

Office hours:
8 a.m.– 4 p.m.
Tuesday– Friday

Rector

The Rev. Jay Morris

Assistant Rector

The Rev. James Rickenbaker

Treasurer

Chris Arey

Assistant Treasurer

Charlie Bingay

Music Director

Trystan Bennett

Dir. Christian Education

Kimberly Bamber

Parish Administrator

Sue Selz

Bookkeeper

Gloria Reyes

Nursery Supervisor

Dawna Spaulding

FROM THE RECTOR

Is There Any Good News?

The media frequently inform us about all sorts of disasters, disappointments, and other disheartening news. Earthquakes and fires happen, crimes are committed, and virtually all the news seems to be bad news. Yet for all the reports about all these events, it seems as though nothing ever really changes for good, and there is little reason for us to be optimistic.

Something like that is probably how Jesus' followers felt after the Friday of his death. Many people knew about various conspiracies to arrest Jesus and to end his life prematurely; religious leaders, foreign powers, and even one of his own apostles were ultimately involved in the successful plot. Jesus was arrested unfairly, prosecuted unjustly, and executed undeservedly. At his crucifixion, the earth actually trembled in horror and fear (Matthew 27:51). Jesus' disciples were understandably distraught at the death of their leader, and they likely wondered what else would happen to their movement and their lives in his absence.

Indeed, Jesus' death may well have seemed like just another massive defeat for the people of God. Consider how things went from the creation of the world to the time of Jesus. Adam and Eve disobeyed God and were expelled from Eden, along with everyone else afterward. The Hebrew people were supposed to have been chosen for greatness and blessing, yet they became enslaved in Egypt. Their descendants eventually arrived in the Promised Land, where David and Solomon became mighty kings, but that kingdom did not survive into the next generation. Then the northern tribes of Israel were assimilated into Assyria and amalgamated with Samaritans, and before too long many people throughout Judah were hauled away into exile in Babylon, whose invading army had ruined Jerusalem and its temple. Eventually the Holy Land

became conquered and dominated by the Roman empire, and the Jewish people divided into several competing factions. By the time you add the deep-seated sinfulness of even the best among God's faithful people, you quickly realize that we human beings could never save ourselves from external attacks, internal corruption, or anything else in our longstanding rebellion against God. The crucifixion of one more man must have seemed all too ordinary to those who had already experienced centuries of such defeat, devastation, and despair.

But then as Good Friday gave way to Easter Sunday, when Jesus' corpse was transformed from death to life, everything began to change. His words and actions from before his crucifixion gained new significance after his resurrection. The people's prayers for a new way of living were revived as well, because they could finally see God's love, goodness, and power at work for their benefit. The reports about Jesus' death turned from being mere obituaries to being good news of our salvation. Jesus was no longer simply a victim of injustice. The way that he died for the sins of the whole world has changed him into a hero of hope for a world desperate to hear good news. And his offer of eternal life for those who believe in him means that there is reality beyond this mortal life in our present age.

Jesus' crucifixion on Good Friday was a disaster and a disappointment that disheartened so many people around him. Yet just as surely, his resurrection on Easter Sunday sparked a revolution that reversed their despair and revived their hope for the future. The same thing is true for everyone today who is waiting to hear good news that brings us joy and gladness.

Jay Morris



FROM THE ASSISTANT RECTOR

The Greatest Story Ever Told

Dear Family in Christ,
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

I thank our God for you, especially as we continue on our yearly Lenten pilgrimage to the cross of Calvary. During this time, we have been reminded of the warp and woof of the Christian life: repentance and faith. Lent is undeniably a time for us to look in the mirror and to see just how deeply we are broken by sin. It is a time when we see that, as the pre-1979 BCP confession stated, “There is no health in us.” The law of God crushes our self-righteousness and defeats our self-aggrandizement. There is no getting around it; there is no avoiding it. Sin is real and we are sinners. There is no way out under our own power. We cannot save ourselves. The law brings about a recognition of our sinfulness, and that recognition is so essential. The law is necessary, not as an end in itself, but as a means to drive us to the Gospel, which is the greatest story ever told.

On account of sin, the world was under the wrath and condemnation of God. But God, in his love, did not leave the world to its own devices. Instead, “when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship” (Gal. 4:4-5). The world stood accused and convicted of sin, but God entered into the fray on our behalf in order to save us from sin. To make us his children by grace through faith alone. Christ came to redeem us from the curse of the law by his obedient life and death in our place. In his obedience, he was “tempted in every way, just as we are—yet without sin” (Heb. 4:15b). He took upon himself the curse of the law. He took upon himself the responsibility for our sin. And our sin was nailed to the

*Jesus Christ, God in the flesh,
is for you.*

His death is for you.

His life is for you.

His saving work is for you.

cross with him. In his death, Christ Jesus destroyed the power of death. He defeated sin, death, and the devil. He made us children of God by his gracious work on our behalf and through faith. He did so not out of obligation, but out of love. Jesus Christ did what he did out of pure love for you. That is the Gospel. Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, is for you. His death is for you. His life is for you. His saving work is for you.

We begin this month of April still in the throes of the Lenten season. We have more time this month for hearing about the depths of our sinfulness, the depravity from which we cannot escape on our own. But we are reminded each week that we are not left to our own devices when it comes to salvation. We are not required, nor are we able, to save ourselves. And as this month draws to a close, we will celebrate anew the fact that the cross of Christ has freed us from sin’s condemnation. That death was defeated two thousand years ago when Christ rose from the dead for you. Even in Lent, never forget that fact. Especially in Lent, hold fast to the Good News of the greatest story ever told.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

*In Christ,
Fr. James*



AQUIA CHURCH VESTRY

Rick Bryant

Finance Committee

Chris Dearing

Finance Committee

Michael Ferrantino

Administration Committee

Brad Hammer

*Junior Warden
Chairperson, Buildings &
Grounds Committee*

Dale Hendon

*Chairperson,
Finance Committee*

Bill Hoffman

Senior Warden

Joe Howard

*Register
Finance Committee*

Carol Korth

*Buildings & Grounds
Committee*

Walt Peterson

*Chairperson,
Administration Committee*

Pat Quinn

Administration Committee



An Easter Meditation

For me the journey through Lent can be deliberately constrained, not rushed; and yet, when Holy Week occurs, it seems to accelerate right up to Easter. Our journey is called to be marked “by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s holy word” (BCP 265). My own efforts fall grievously short, yet I do seek to find ways to abide by this standard.

The story of Joseph Mary Plunkett may not be familiar to many. Indeed, unless you were an English major in college and studied Irish poets, I suspect he may be unknown to you. However, his poetry and the story of his life opened some space for meditation that I share below.

Joseph Mary Plunkett (Anglicized name) was an Irish republican (meaning that he favored ending British control over Ireland and allowing for Irish self-governance), poet, and one of the leaders of the Easter Rising in Dublin of April 1916. This armed insurrection in Ireland during Easter week was launched by Irish republicans against British rule in Ireland, aiming to establish an independent Irish republic while the British were fighting the First World War. It was the most significant uprising in Ireland since the rebellion of 1798. In the end, the British army overwhelmed the rebels, and 16 of the uprising’s leaders faced execution. As he awaited his execution at dawn on May 4, Plunkett’s fiancée, Grace Gifford Mary Plunkett, bought a ring in a jewelry shop in Dublin and, with the help of a priest, persuaded the military authorities to allow them to marry. Gifford and Plunkett

were married on the night of May 3 in the prison chapel, a few hours before he was executed by firing squad. He was 28. I find there are cords of Easter, love, and sacrifice to be observed in the life and death of Plunkett.

His poem below is a powerful reminder of God’s love for us, and that Christ, through whom all things were made, gave himself for us utterly and completely. Creation reflects his glory and his sacrificial love.

Chris Arey

*I see his blood upon the rose
And in the stars the glory of his eyes,
His body gleams amid eternal snows,
His tears fall from the skies.*

*I see his face in every flower;
The thunder and the singing of the birds
Are but his voice—and carven by his power
Rocks are his written words.*

*All pathways by his feet are worn,
His strong heart stirs the ever-beating sea,
His crown of thorns is twined with every thorn,
His cross is every tree.*

STS. MARY AND MARTHA GUILD

Members of the Sts. Mary and Martha guild and our parish are currently on our Christian journey toward celebrating Easter and the resurrection of Jesus Christ. We are traveling through Lent, which in short is a protracted period of self-inspection, forgiveness, and reconciliation. This reflection allows us really to appreciate Christ’s death, resurrection, and eternal life. We come to understand more fully the debt Christ paid for us through his gift of mercy and forgiveness.

Lent culminates with our fellowship with Him in Heaven one day. Our time of self-denial, scriptural study, and service in Lent lead to our renewal and augmentation of our faith, during Lent

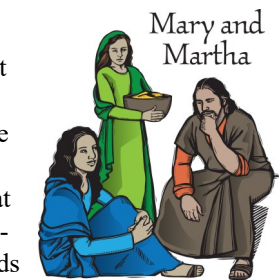
and through the Easter season. Our church and clergy offer a book study weekly through the Lenten season, with discussion as well as fellowship, along with other activities for Christians of various stages of development.

Daily meditation, along with readings offered by the Diocese of Virginia, are other paths of exploration leading to the expansion of our faith.

Service is an integral part of our newly acquired, dynamic, and expanding faith. Employ your newly discovered facets of faith in one or more of our parish ministries. This new aspect will become an increasingly embedded part of your faith as you exercise it. Try it!

Visit the Lenten Cross at the back of the sanctuary in the baptismal pew. Take a card that suits your interests. These cards suggest donations of time or money, and others suggest service to others or with our ministries.

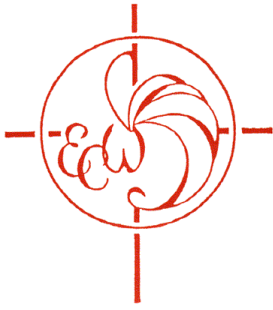
We are in the most important season of the church season. The Sts. Mary and Martha Guild wish you all joy and happiness this Easter.



*Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Hendrickson*



EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN



Mission Statement:

The Episcopal Church Women of Aquia Church, with the grace of the Holy Spirit, wish to know Christ and make him known through prayer, education, concern for others and joyful service.

A few years ago, I made the acquaintance of one of the Episcopal Church Women's most ardent workers and leaders here at Aquia Episcopal Church. I met Briget Kane while working at Aquia's Table, volunteering to serve meals to the community during the Wednesday nights when meals were provided by Aquia's Table and groceries were distributed by Aquia's Pantry. Briget was bustling around the stainless steel island in the kitchen, organizing, cooking, and working hard. Before long, through her quick tutelage, I was assigned a task, and I noticed how Briget helped to make us all rather seamless, able to fit together and to work side by side. Every now and again, she would send a reminder about time, and as we approached the 6:00 p.m. hour to begin distribution, she encouraged us all to work together. It was easy to see her leadership and her work ethic. As I approached the due date of this article, I knew that I wanted to dedicate this space in the newsletter to Briget Kane.

I went to the Bible for support, as I have so many words that I would like to write but do not want this missive to be about my feelings. Instead, this should be about how God calls us to ministries and how we respond to his call. In Saint Paul's letter to the Romans, chapter 16 begins with Paul writing to the faithful of Rome to reach out in greeting to certain members of the Church who have proven themselves as faithful workers, working to strive for unity in God's mission for the church. Paul writes:

"I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a servant of the church in Cenchrea. I ask you to receive her in the Lord in a way worthy of the saints and to give her any help she may need from you, for she has been a great help to many people, including me" (Romans 16:1-2).

This commendation from Paul puts into words the effort and Briget's work, within ECW and within Aquia's Table and within the church in general. She indeed has been a great help to many in our church and in our commu-

nity. Along the way, I found a great friendship, a lover of art, and an admirer of all the gifts in nature. I know that writing about Briget will make her very uncomfortable, but I wanted to take the time to recognize her for such clear and insightful leadership, for being one of the role models within our own church community, and to thank her for the countless hours of sharing her talent, working alongside everyone, and gracing the kitchen and other places on our campus with her presence. I also thank her for being a great help to me in church sisterhood and ministry. Briget, your words, gestures of grace, and beautiful smile will keep many of us motivated to continue to do that work which God sets before us, with the help and support of His son Jesus Christ. I hope God blesses you with peace and tranquility, and sends you the good work he knows you can handle. Bless you for your time with all of us, and thank you for your laughter and love.

*Carol Korth
President, Aquia Church ECW*

United Thank Offering Spring In-Gathering

During the latter half of the 19th century, many Christian organizations began working more actively to address issues related to social injustice. In the light of the Great Awakenings, new religious denominations were founded, organizations were established to meet the needs of the urban less fortunate, and missionaries were sent all

over the world in ever greater numbers. The United Thank Offering of the Episcopal Church is another example of these efforts.

In 1889 Julia Chester Emery, national secretary of the Women's Auxiliary (today's Episcopal Church Women), instituted the United Offering with the intent to support innovative mission

projects and send female missionaries to serve as nurses and teachers. The first two projects to receive grants from the United Offering funded the construction of a mission church in Alaska and paid the yearly salary of a missionary in Japan.

Continued on page 9



AQUIA'S PANTRY

Behold Aquia Pantry's new roadside banner, as seen below! We post it on the Wednesdays when only the pantry is open because we want our guests and our community to know that the groceries are provided by God and offered in the Name of our Lord.

This month we would like to thank all the grocery stores, restaurants, and convenience stores that routinely give food for the pantry. Each week our volunteers pick up donations from Publix, Walmart Neighborhood Market, Weis Market on Deacon Road, Target, Panera at Stafford Marketplace, Panera at Embury Mill, Sheetz on Route 610, and Sheetz on Wyche Road. We also receive food from the Fredericksburg Regional Food Bank, along with donations from our parish family.

Altogether the Pantry receives thousands of dollars' worth of food each week to distribute to our guests who are struggling with food insecurity.

In the Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ



Groceries

Wednesday 6 to 7 PM

These gifts are gathered, weighed, sorted, bagged, and handed out by our volunteers, who are the earthly hands and feet of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are very thankful to God not only for all these gifts of food but also for both the investment of time poured into the Pantry by our volunteers and the friendships that have been built there. Please consider joining us on Tuesday mornings or any time on Wednesdays from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Our greatest need for extra hands is on Wednesday eve-

nings, when we pass out these gifts to our guests.

The Pantry food requests for the Pantry this month are boxes of pasta and cereal, as well as egg cartons and brown paper grocery bags. To learn more, please reach out to Barb Bingay, Ron Korth, or Mary Jane Cole (maryjane@cfsw.biz), or stop by the great hall any Wednesday between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Mary Jane Cole

VESTRY

SPECIAL VESTRY MEETING (via Zoom) MINUTES

18 March 2025

In Attendance: Fr. Jay Morris, Rector; Bill Hoffman, Sr. Warden, Chris Arey, Treasurer; Pat Quinn, Walt Peterson, Rick Bryant, Michael Ferrantino, Dale Hendon, and Joe Howard, Register.

Business Session (6:30 p.m.)

Opening Prayer and Lord's Prayer, led by the rector.

The purpose of this special vestry meeting is to review and discuss the draft Aquia Episcopal Church bylaws, which were circulated to all vestry members by email.

Rector Jay Morris led the discussion of the 15-page draft bylaws, requesting suggestions for modifications as necessary from vestry members, throughout the various sections contained in the draft. Vestry members offered suggested changes of an editorial nature, as well as substantive and non-substantive changes. The rector responded to questions from the vestry as to the reasons for certain provisions.

At the conclusion of the extensive review of the draft bylaws, several issues remained for further consideration and work. Michael Ferrantino and the rector will work on the topic of vestry composition and filling vacancies. Chris Arey will provide the rector with suggested language to include regarding approval of electronic payments. Further thought is required concerning the proper vestry committee to

supervise the cleaning contractor's work on Aquia Church facilities.

Rector Jay Morris announced that he would incorporate all of the changes suggested by the vestry members into a clean copy, which he will circulate by email, as soon as possible before the regular vestry meeting on March 25, 2025. With all of the work accomplished in the thorough review of the draft bylaws, it is hoped that a vote on the draft would be possible at the March 25 meeting.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment

There being no further business to be brought before the vestry, the meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer by the rector.

*Respectfully submitted,
Joe Howard*



VESTRY MEETING (via Zoom) MINUTES

25 February 2025

In Attendance: Fr. Jay Morris, Rector; Fr. James Rickenbaker, Assistant Rector; Bill Hoffman, Sr. Warden; Chris Arey, Treasurer; Pat Quinn, Walt Peterson, Rick Bryant, Michael Ferrantino, Dale Hendon, Chris Dearing, and Joe Howard, Register.

Business Session (starting at 7:00 p.m.)

Opening Prayer and Lord's Prayer, led by the rector.

Treasurer's Report, provided by treasurer Chris Arey.

New Business

- **R-2025-01: Approval of Report from Audit Committee that Reviewed 2023 Financials:** Approved unanimously by the vestry.

- **R-2025-02: Additional Payment on Principal of CFFB Mortgage:** Approved unanimously by the vestry.

- Motion made orally by Dale Hendon and seconded by Joe Howard to authorize and direct the treasurer to renew the CFFB mortgage CD for an additional five months. Approved unanimously by the vestry.

- **R-2025-03: Authorization to Use Funds from the Moncure Robinson Trust Fund for Operating Expenses Associated with the Historic Church:** Approved unanimously by the vestry.

- **Financial Data for the Parochial Report on 2024:** Approved unanimously by the vestry.

Continuing Business

- **Organizing Committees of Vestry:** The meeting schedules, goals, and non-vestry members submitted by each vestry committee were approved unanimously by the vestry.

- **Duties of Bookkeeper:** Father Morris plans to discuss the return to work of the bookkeeper after her recovery from surgery, by the end of March, to determine her future schedule and capabilities.

- **Bylaws:** Father Morris discussed the inability to discover documentation of final approval of the bylaws. He will submit a clean copy of the last draft of the bylaws for review by the vestry, with a special meeting to be held in late March for formal approval of the bylaws.

- **Hand-Made Bricks at the Fleurries:** Sr. Warden Bill Hoffman reported that the buildings and grounds committee recommends salvaging 20 of the bricks and putting the remainder out for sale.

Reports from Committees, Wardens, and Clergy

On behalf of the buildings and grounds committee, Sr. Warden Bill Hoffman reported that (1) the flooring in the Fleurries office bathroom is separating and needs to be replaced and that the hot water heater also needs to be replaced; (2) the historic church window glazing is failing and that various exterior areas require painting; and (3) the floor in the rectory is uneven and needs to be examined and improved before replacing with new flooring.

The clergy report was submitted in writing to the vestry.



Vestry Highlights

Minutes from the Previous Meeting:

Motion by Dale Hendon and seconded by Pat Quinn, to approve the January 28, 2025, Minutes as submitted. Approved unanimously by the vestry.

Upcoming Dates

3/5: Ash Wednesday Worship Services (12:00 noon & 7:00 p.m.)

3/25: March Vestry meeting in person with meal (6:00 p.m.)

4/20: Easter Sunday Worship services (6:30, 9:00, & 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.)

4/22: April Vestry meeting over Zoom (7:00 p.m.)

Good of the Order, Closing Prayer, and Adjournment

Sr. Warden Bill Hoffman reported that he would not be available for the March vestry meeting as a result of taking a fishing frolic in Florida during that week.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Fr. James Rickenbaker.

*Respectfully submitted,
Joe Howard
Register*



Planning our Response

*How best to handle
an active shooter
situation in the
historic church*

You may recall that the Vestry published a newsletter article about “hoping for the best but preparing for the worst” in the August 2024 Cross Section. That article described how best to handle an Active Shooter situation in the historic church, and we believe it is important to remind the parish of how best to handle this crisis twice a year in order to keep the guidance fresh in our minds.

The first thing to know is that **the original phone number for texting no longer works**, so it should be removed from your phone.

Sergeant Curtis of the Stafford County Sheriff’s Office shared these several points as the most current and relevant for any active shooter situation:

Avoid the danger zone:

- Leave your belongings behind.
- Have an escape route and plan in mind.
- Call or text 9-1-1 only when you are safe.

ACTIVE SHOOTER EVENTS

When an Active Shooter is in your vicinity, you must be prepared both mentally and physically to deal with the situation.

You have three options:

1 RUN

- Have an escape route and plan in mind.
- Leave your belongings behind.
- Evacuate regardless of whether others agree to follow.
- Help others escape, if possible.
- Do not attempt to move the wounded.
- Prevent others from entering an area where the active shooter may be.
- Keep your hands visible.
- Call 911 when you are safe.

2 HIDE

- Hide in an area out of the shooter’s view.
- Lock door or block entry to your hiding place.
- Silence your cell phone (including vibrate mode) and remain quiet.

FIGHT 3

- Fight as a last resort and only when your life is in imminent danger.
- Attempt to incapacitate the shooter.
- Act with as much physical aggression as possible.
- Improvise weapons or throw items at the active shooter.
- Commit to your actions. . . your life depends on it.

The first officers to arrive on scene will not stop to help the injured. Expect rescue teams to follow initial officers. These rescue teams will treat and remove the injured.

Once you have reached a safe location, you likely will be held in that area by law enforcement until the situation is under control and all witnesses have been identified and questioned. Do not leave the area until law enforcement authorities have instructed you to do so.

Deny the shooter access:

- Lock any door or block entry to deny access to your area.
- Silence your cell phone (including vibrate mode) and remain quiet.
- Close windows, shades, and blinds, and avoid being seen from outside the room.

Defend against the danger:

- Fight as a last resort, doing so only when your life is in imminent danger.
- Attempt to incapacitate or disrupt the actions of the attacker.
- Commit to your actions...your life depends on it!

Note that people at the back of the church might be able to text the Sheriff’s Office quickly if someone is obviously armed and dangerous.

Greeters: If someone is new and acting strangely, a greeter should follow him or her and sit beside the person. That way, the greeter could silently convey to the clergy that there may be a problem.

After the Incident: Medical and first aid personnel should remain in the church until EMS has arrived to tend to any victims. All who are ambulatory should exit by any of the three church doors. Vestry members will lead small groups to our rally and recovery site which is the great hall inside the Christian Formation and Education Building. For safety, stay off the driveway pavement so that law enforcement vehicles and ambulances can arrive without danger to parishioners.

Note: NO ONE SHOULD LEAVE THE CAMPUS UNTIL THE POLICE NOTIFY US THAT IT IS SAFE TO GO.

For more good suggestions, review the “Active Shooter Event” flier included with this article.

The clergy and the vestry thank you for your anticipated contribution and cooperation.

Mary Jane Cole



United Thank Offering,
Continued from page 5

After World War I, the name was changed to United Thank Offering and the support was expanded to fund projects that responded to compelling human needs of social justice, racial equality, and gender equality.

Over the years, more than 5400 grants totaling over \$144 million have supported projects throughout The Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion worldwide. Funding raised in one year is distributed in the next year. Funds gathered in 2025 will be distributed in 2026. Requests for funds are generally capped at \$55,000, although larger projects may request up to \$100,000. In 2024 the United Thank Offering received fifty-seven applications for funding and granted twenty of them, thereby distributing over a million dollars of funds gathered in 2023.

Projects are selected as they focus on various Scripture-inspired needs. For 2026 the focus will be on ‘Justice and Bridging Divides,’ as reflected by Amos 5:24—“But let justice roll down like water, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.” Next year’s projects are expected to demonstrate how two seemingly disconnected groups will work together toward meaningful change within their local communities, building bridges in the pursuit of a more just world. The blue and white envelopes and boxes of the UTO will soon be set throughout our historic church in preparation of our Spring In-Gathering of the United Thank Offering on Sunday, May 4. Please consider this prayer as you prepare your own donation: “Almighty God, I give you praise for blessing me in many ways. Create in me a grateful heart, and with this gift a blessing start. Amen.”

Jennifer Stoltz

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

Aquia Church Prayer List

April 2025

Carol Bailey, the Banks family,
Richard Chichester, Paula Davis,
Michael Golasz, Mary Hall, Tim Lacey,
Lori, Anne Luehrs, Ken Luehrs,
Doug McGinity, Pat Moncure, Rebecca Poole,
John Pribble, Rebecca Schaffer,
Arnie Schwartz, Scott Smith, Tom Tremper,
Nancy Wentworth, Walt & Elizabeth Yager.



SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS AT AQUIA CHURCH

New Babies: Please call the church office (540-659-4007) after the birth of a child so that a red rose can be placed on the altar in thanksgiving.

Those Being Deployed: Please call the church office (540-659-4007) so that we can offer special prayers at a service prior to your departure. Also, we want to put you on our prayer list for all those who are deployed in the service of our country.

FUTURE BAPTISMS

The next scheduled date for a baptism is **April 27, 2025**. If you would like to arrange for yourself or someone in your family to be baptized, please contact the church office (540-659-4007) so that counseling with the clergy can be scheduled.

How to reach us:



www.aquiachurch.org
office@aquiachurch.org
(540) 659-4007

<https://www.facebook.com/AquiaEpiscopalChurch>





AQUIA
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Aquia Episcopal Church
Post Office Box 275
Stafford, VA
22555

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Easter Lily
Order Form



Enclosed is my donation of \$20 for Easter lilies
to adorn the church on Easter Day.

I would like my donation to the flower guild to be:

In Thanksgiving
for: _____

In Memory
of: _____

Please enclose a check for \$20.00 made out to:
Aquia Episcopal Church

On the memo line write: "Easter Lily"

Name _____

Phone Number _____

DEADLINE IS APRIL 13TH